

NUCLEAR FUEL EXPORT LICENSE ACTIONS PENDING BEFORE U.S. NRC

This is NuclearFuel's expanded tabulation of nuclear fuel export licensing actions pending before NRC. The intention is to provide quick reference for those interested in tracing the progress of particular licenses through the approval process. For this purpose, we have retained for today's listing those applications listed last month for which licenses now have been issued. (The last previous tabulation was in the NuclearFuel issue of Dec. 22, pages 6-8.)

The table is arranged alphabetically by country of export destination; it includes NRC's license application number and the date on which NRC logged receipt of the application, as well as time elapsed (to the nearest month) since that receipt; it lists either the reactor for which the uranium will be used as fuel or the purpose (e.g., fabrication) for which an export license is sought; and it gives the status of the application (as of NuclearFuel press time), together with the date on which that status was attained. Unless otherwise noted, the quantities are given in kilograms of uranium as UF₆, and the enrichment percentage is noted.

Status of applications being considered by the State Department is reported to Congress periodically as required by the Nuclear Nonproliferation Act. Here, as available, is how State explains delays in exports listed in this table: The exports to South Africa are delayed "pending the outcome of certain ongoing discussions with the South African government."

The Philippines export was delayed pending a recent court decision permitting export of the Westinghouse reactor that 121,000 kg of uranium would fuel.

Exports to Spain have been delayed pending completion of an IAEA safeguards agreement. The agreement was with-

drawn from the agenda of the December meeting of the IAEA's board of governors because further discussions are needed to resolve the issue of placing IAEA safeguards on spent fuel from the Vandellors I reactor. According to U.S. government officials, Spain feels it cannot agree to place IAEA safeguards on the fuel without France's approval because the fuel is supplied by France and is returned there for reprocessing, with the recovered plutonium being retained in France.

On Dec. 31, 1980 NRC issued XSNM-1703 to Exxon Nuclear to ship 10,000 kg of enriched uranium to West Germany. This license had been delayed because Exxon Nuclear changed the intermediate consignee for the fuel to a Transnuclear facility that NRC staff said required further checking by the State Department. To avoid further delays, Exxon in late November again changed the intermediate consignee to the Nukem facility at Hanau, which is well-known to NRC staff as a Euratom-approved facility.

The State Department has recommended issuing export licenses to Westinghouse, General Electric and Combustion Engineering to ship fuel to Taiwan. The companies have applied for the fuel licenses as part of their bids to build Taiwan Power's units 7 and 8. The State Department gave its approval to General Electric's and Westinghouse's requests that the licenses be valid for eight years beginning in January 1987, the date of the first scheduled shipment. Combustion Engineering had requested that the licenses be valid until December 2030 to correspond to the expected operation life of the reactors, but the department recommended only an eight-year term.

Destination reactor or purpose	Quantity (kg U as UF ₆ unless otherwise stated)	U-235 (percent)	Applicant	License number and date application received	Elapsed time to date (months)	Status (see key) and date
ARGENTINA						
RA-3	12.03	90.4	Edlow Intl	XSNM-1496(4/12/79)	21	C - 4/13/79
RA-6	50.13	19.9	Edlow Intl	XSNM-1587(9/7/79)	16	C - 9/24/79
AUSTRIA						
Astra	4.371	93.3	Transnuclear	XSNM-1725(9/9/80)	4	D - 12/15/80
Astra	33.0	19.95	Transnuclear	XSNM-1726(9/9/80)	4	D - 12/15/80
Astra	3.735	45.4	Transnuclear	XSNM-1727(9/9/80)	4	D - 12/15/80
BANGLADESH						
Triga Mark II	55.4	19.9	General Atomic	XSNM-1669(3/28/80)	10	C - 4/2/80
BRAZIL						
Angra-1	1,726	3.45	Westinghouse	XSNM-909(8/24/79)	17	C - 9/6/79
Angra-1	16,242	3.35	Transnuclear	XSNM-1629(12/3/79)	14	C - 12/10/79
CANADA						
NRX, NRU, Slowpoke	99	93.3	Transnuclear	XSNM-1355(7/28/78)	30	C - 12/19/79
NRX, NRU	191	93	Transnuclear	XSNM-1627(11/26/79)	14	C - 12/10/79
DENMARK						
DR-3	15.04	93.3	Transnuclear	XSNM-1500(4/23/79)	21	C - 4/26/79
FRANCE						
HFR	33	93.3	Transnuclear	XSNM-1521(6/6/79)	19	C - 6/13/79
HFR (Grenoble)	26	93.5	Edlow Intl	XSNM-1536(7/9/79)	18	C - 7/12/79
Orphee	15	93.3	Transnuclear	XSNM-1543(7/17/79)	18	C - 7/27/79
Rapsodie	60	93.3	Transnuclear	XSNM-1544(7/17/79)	18	C - 12/10/79
Siloe	26	93.3	Transnuclear	XSNM-1545(7/17/79)	18	C - 12/10/79
Grenoble	26	93.5	Edlow Intl	XSNM-1764(10/29/80)	3	C - 11/21/80